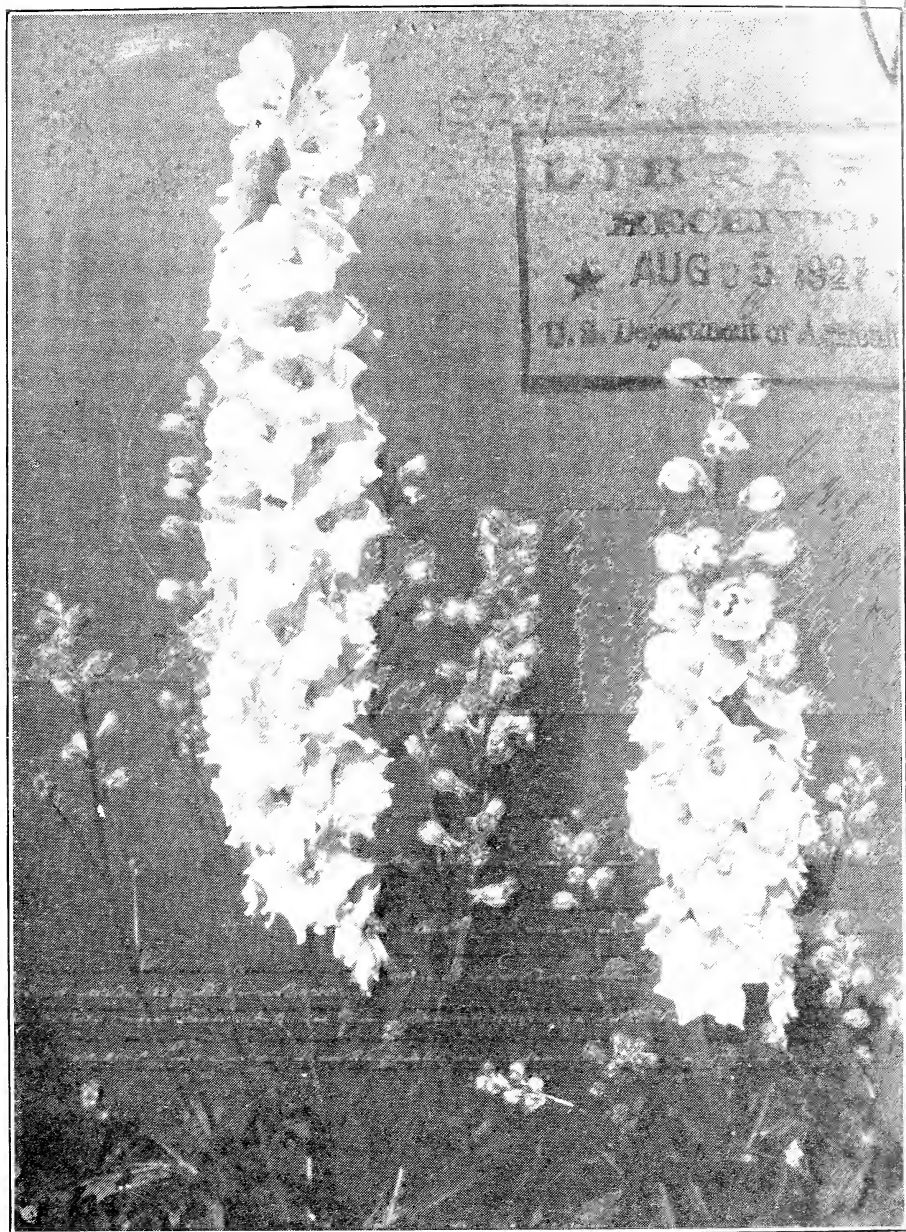


Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

52.71



BRIDESMAID—One of Hoodacres New White Beauties.

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS

(Perennial Larkspurs)



The Message

I send through the mail a winged message;
It hides in this booklet of ours;
It brings you an understanding
Of plant life, its leaves and its flowers.
There is joy for you held in the message
If you plant from the names in the book,
For they are flowers sold from my garden;
The blossoms are just as they look.

Acknowledgment

In placing this current issue of the little catalog in your hands I wish to thank the many who have called their friends' attention to Hoodacres Delphiniums, and also to express appreciation for the complimentary letters constantly received.



HOODACRES Larkspur farm and display field is located directly on *Columbia River Highway*, the great scenic drive of the western world, five miles out from Portland city limits and midway between Portland and Troutdale. (Office formerly at 1552 Union Avenue, Portland.)

Some Delphiniums are blooming throughout the season; largest showing late May through June, September and October. Visitors are always welcome.

Chas. F. Barber

Troutdale, Oregon

(Mail and wire address)

Phone Gresham LD 1687.

Autumn 1927 ~ Spring 1928

Their Culture

Plants are safely moved throughout the fall and early spring, but may suffer if moved in late spring. Except in very wet, cold soils, **autumn planting is strongly recommended.**

Delphiniums set in autumn make unchecked headway when the spring urge comes and therefore make better showing than those set in spring; they are among the first herbaceous plants to start growth. After getting well grown plants allow ample space for each and open the earth eighteen inches or more in depth and as much in breadth, filling one-half with rough humus soil (old sods will do) well tamped. Complete filling with the best soil you can provide, preferably containing some leaf mold, and made thoroughly friable. If of a clayey nature, incorporate sand to prevent caking, as much of the vigor of the plant comes from the tiny surface roots. Set plants not less than two feet apart, with crowns not more than two inches below surface, the roots well spread and soil firmed against them before leveling. Avoid dense shade and roots of trees.

When growth first starts in spring dig around each plant a trowel of bone-meal. Cut faded spikes to prevent seeding. It is the nature of hybrid Delphiniums to **bloom a second time** in the season and as the second growth appears the old stalk yellows, is no longer required, and should be cut down. Do not force this second growth, rather allow a short resting period, then give another supply of bone-meal, being careful not to destroy the fine surface-feeding roots, and water generously. If the weaker growths are removed when plants are a few inches high the remaining ones will benefit. Well grown Delphiniums will bloom the first season after planting and being true perennials should, with favorable conditions, increase in size and grandeur each year.

Garden Enemies

Although hardly known on the Pacific Coast, in some sections there has been trouble from a disease called "blight" or "black spot," which starts with black spots on the leaves that extend and enlarge until the entire growth of the plant is killed. Also there is a form of root rot that seems to prevail in some places. An effective cure is said to be a government formula, as follows: Mercuric Chloride, 1 gram; Sodium Nitrate, 1 gram; Water, $5\frac{1}{2}$ gallons. Apply with a sprinkler close in so as to get down to the roots. It will not injure the foliage and takes care of both the spot and root rot.

If plants show a weak or unhealthy condition, not due to the above troubles, it may be the soil is not healthy. Try the following: Unslaked lime, 2 pounds; Water, 5 gallons; Tobacco dust, $\frac{1}{2}$ pound. Slake lime and add tobacco dust, then when using dilute in proportion of 1 to 12 and saturate the ground freely, repeating as needed.

Where slugs or snails abound use plenty of coarse sand in and around the plant, especially when new shoots are about to come through the ground in early spring. And a mound of sand over each plant in winter is a good form of protection in severe climates.

H. C. ARMSTRONG
Investment Securities

Edwardsville, Ill., May 15, 1927.

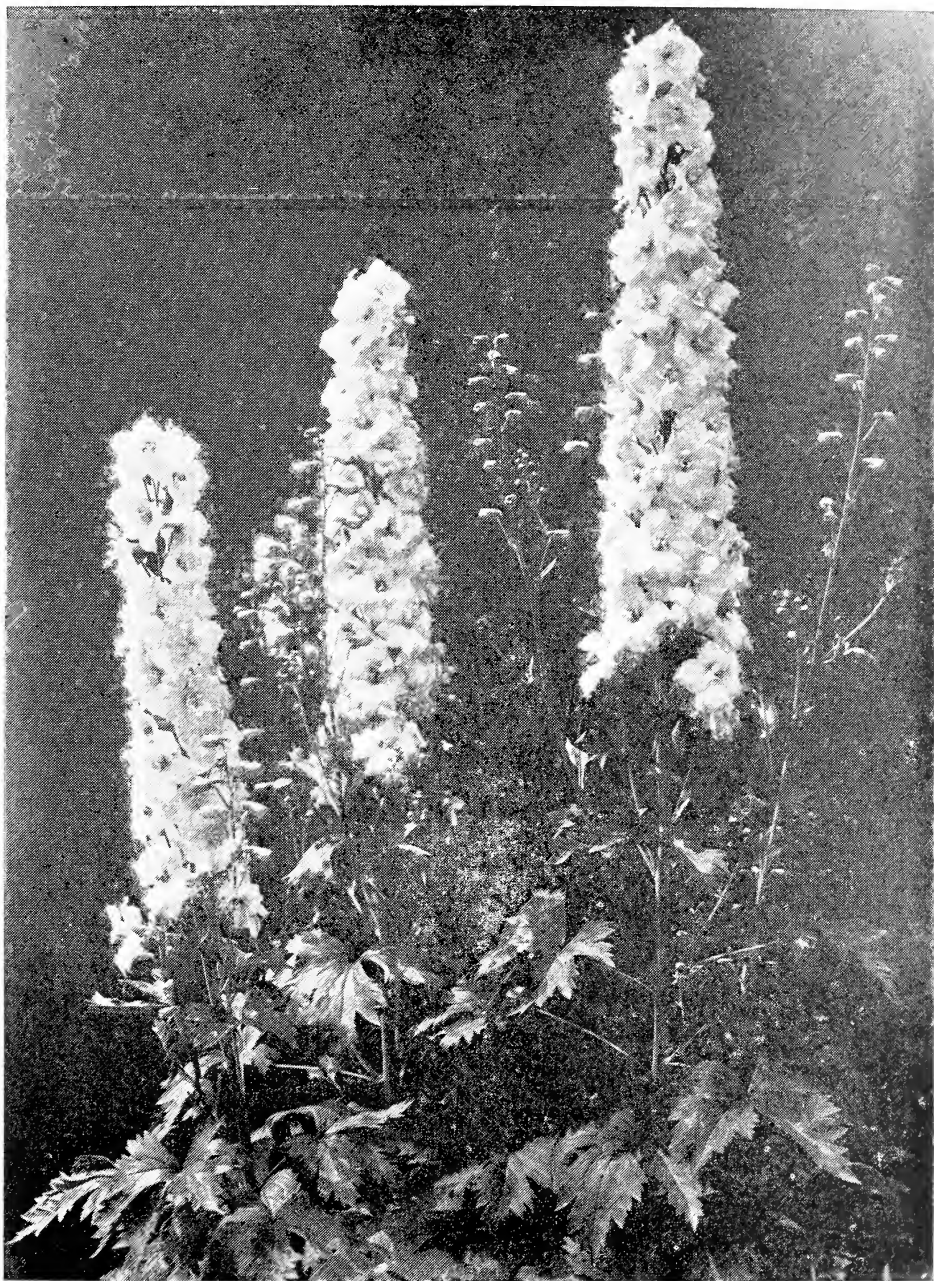
Dear Sir:

I have been buying plants for many years and the opening of the packages and transplanting them always gives pleasure, but I have never had such a thrill as I experienced this last week when I opened the box you sent me and I realized how perfectly and generously you had filled my order.

The plants show their breeding and their condition indicated they had been nurtured and started on their long journey by a master who loved them.

H. C. ARMSTRONG.

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS



TRAIL'S END

Wrexham or "Hollyhock" Delphiniums

In 1921 there came out of Wales, to the London exhibitions, the marvelous "Wrexham" seedlings which literally "swept the boards," so massive and effective were they. Visitors continually exclaimed: "Why, they are like Hollyhocks!"

The strain is conspicuous for its broad-based tall spikes, carrying largest individual flowers that run largely to the rich deep shades, much prized by experienced growers.

Immediately after Mr. Samuel's display of his new creations I began receiving his product direct, made heavy plantings, and at once introduced the strain to American growers, with the result that the name "Wrexham" is now almost as well known as "Belladonna." The demand necessitates increased plantings each season.

Even the young plants blooming for the first time are a revelation to Delphinium collectors and their massive character in fuller maturity is cause for fresh amazement.

The illustration on opposite page is intended to represent the type and show the full development of a plant, instead of a single spike. **OLYMPUS** grew under normal conditions of soil, climate and treatment and at time of photographing was just about twenty-eight months old.

As our Wrexham planting is very large, we shall be able to take care of many orders for plants we have systematically checked when in bloom, and that can be relied upon to give satisfaction. We are obliged to defer offering named varieties until the stock is much larger than at present.

Selected **seedling** plants, **\$3.00** and **\$5.00** each. Only a limited number of the **\$5.00** kind.

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS



OLYMPUS

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS

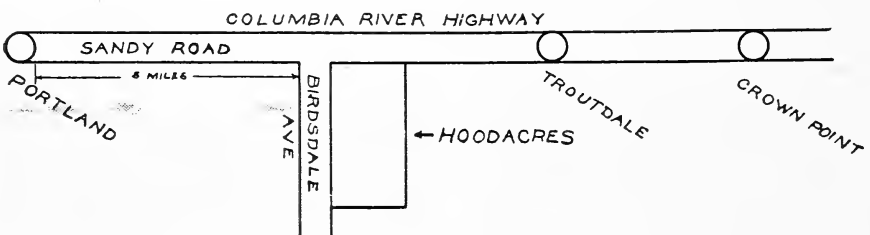
HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS represent the pinnacle of present attainment in these stately flowers. In beginning the work of selection and improvement, which has extended over a period of more than twenty-five years, I took advantage of the best that had been done in Europe and have continued to add the cream of their accomplishments. This has meant not only an enrichment of my own stock, but also a means of constant comparison of results.

A few years of hybridizing native species will produce remarkable results, but may be a long way from the spikes of splendidly finished flowers now available at Hoodacres.

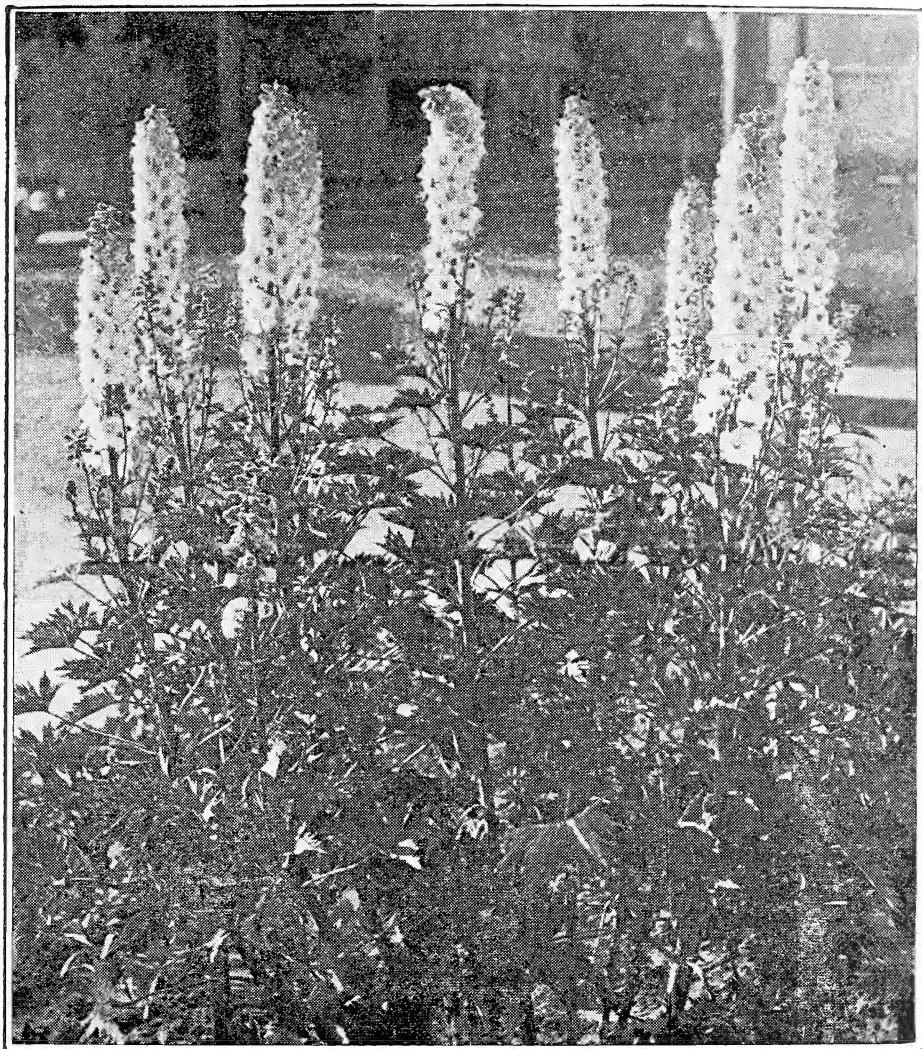
The demand for **Hoodacres Delphiniums** made it imperative that greatly enlarged growing conditions be provided. The **Columbia River Highway** being one of the famous scenic drives of the world seemed the logical direction and great good fortune attended the selection: splendid soil, prominent and pleasing location, together with nearness to the city of Portland, make it quite ideal.

In this new tract, containing seven and a half acres, we shall be still better prepared to send out plants of great vigor and highest quality, also to accept and fill very large orders. Here also the conditions for plant breeding will allow of greatly extended work in that direction and the public will be informed of the new things from time to time.

No real visitor to Oregon but takes the Columbia River Highway trip and no real garden lover but will want to stop at **HOODACRES** during the season of Delphinium bloom, which extends through late spring into early summer and from August on to frost. (Note exact location below, reading west to east.)



HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS



BRIDAL GOWN—Single plant—two years old

Slides for Delphinium Talks

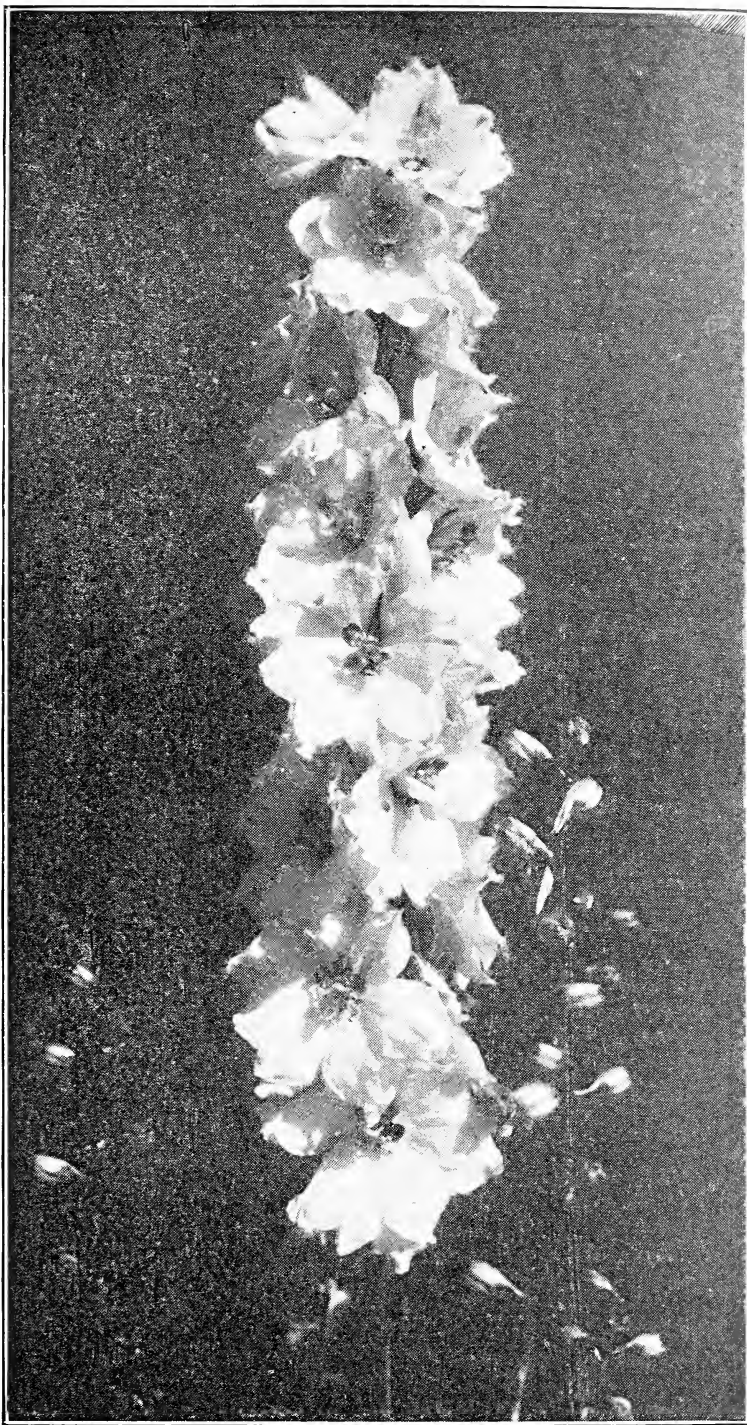
Occasionally Mr. Barber is inveigled into giving Delphinium talks before Garden Clubs, but, not being a lecturer, relies upon a small set of colored slides, illustrative of the modern Delphinium in its various forms, colors and uses, to keep the audience from flocking out. These slides, including a few on Lupins, and now numbering 25, will be gladly loaned to accredited Garden Clubs, as available, when "Delphiniums" is to be the meeting topic. The Club is to be responsible for their safe and prompt return and the mailing charges going and coming. It will be well to make application a month in advance.

The Chaste White Delphiniums

One of the loveliest flowers imaginable is a well grown spike of double white Delphinium. Something about its formation and appealing purity goes straight to the heart. Few flower growers have come under the spell of this new creation, because they did not previously exist and such forerunners as were to be seen were weak and unsatisfactory. Following the advent here of White Sister have come other splendid specimens as The Bride, Pearl Necklace, Bridesmaid, Angel's Breath and Snow Bound—all with the luxuriant foliage of the good blue types.

The pages of this booklet may carry beautiful illustrations of things grown at Hoodacres, but cannot reproduce the spectacle of living specimens on which such remarkable white spikes grow. However, it is logically apparent that they could not exist on other than thrifty plants and that is a most vital point. Albinos of the past have been weak, shabbily clothed and unfit to appear in good company. Quite as by magic these white creations came, leaving the hybridizers puzzling as to how it was brought about.

This first distribution of HOODACRES WHITES is a real event in Delphinium history. I had hoped to send out some last year but we are at last ready to supply a few plants. There will be no named varieties going out this season but a limited number of very choice seedlings that well represent the named kinds. These will be in two classes. The finest, most typical and valuable to breed from will be \$25.00 each. The second class will have the same type of blossom but running to shorter spikes, and at the shorter price of \$10.00 each.



ANGEL'S BREATH (New White)

Delphinium Classification

Delphiniums classify naturally into twelve groups, relating to form and color of the individual florets. In form there are single flowers and also semi-double; in shades **light**, **medium** and **dark**, while the centers, or eyes, are either white or some darker tone—all accounted for in the simple Hoodacres classification plan.

The single-flowered are in an alphabetical sequence of six: Apache, Biloxi, Cayuga, Dakota, Eskimo and Fonecha. The semi-doubles form another similar sextette: Navajo, Ottawa, Pawnee, Quapaw, Rama and Shasta. All the distinctions will be quickly recognized by reference to the illustrations on opposite page.

LIGHT SHADES

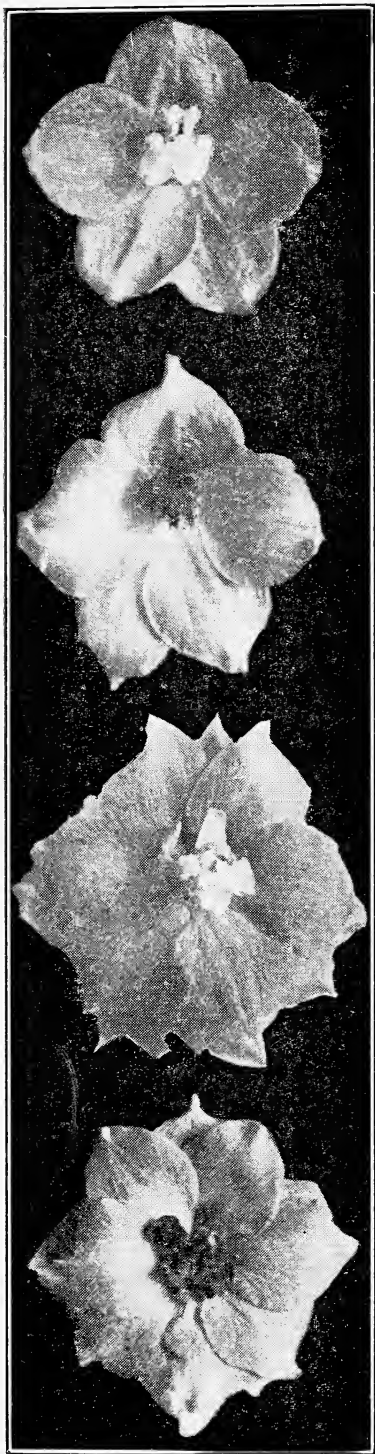
All lightest colored varieties, excepting whites. In this division the so-called pink tones occur, usually in combination with light blue sepals. In the APACHE section are found the Belladonna blues, while dark eyes in the BILOXI tribe afford an attractive contrast.

MEDIUM SHADES

All medium shades in innumerable combinations and forms fall within this division, including those having mauve and pinky mauve running off into lilac markings. The blues are mostly gentian or ultramarine and some are very clear and sparkling.

DARK SHADES

All dark and very dark varieties. As with the lighter colors, some have extremely large centers and when this is jet black on deep blue the effect is of blue-black velvet. In this division are the deep gentian and marine blues, as well as the red-purples and blue-purples, which are almost always combined with blue.



White Centered Singles

Apache, light
Cayuga, medium
Eskimo, dark

Dark Centered Singles

Biloxi, light
Dakota, medium
Fonecha, dark

White Centered Semi-Doubles

Navajo, light
Pawnee, medium
Rama, dark

Dark Centered Semi-Doubles

Ottawa, light
Quapaw, medium
Shasta, dark



CURTAIN CALL

This represents a Hoodacres-Wrexham hybrid, not yet two years old, and making six fine spikes in June, 1927. No plants yet available.

SELECTED *Hoodacres Hybrids* (UNNAMED)

Cannot be too highly recommended, and just escape being set aside and named by reason of their close similarity to others that are so honored. They are the seedling product of the finest varieties the world affords, grown to large blooming specimens before they are sent out. Some of the parents are wonderful new kinds, not for sale at any price.

From the many thousand plants so created, is selected each season, at time of blooming, by a system of careful checking, a limited number of exceptional merit that are distinguished into **light**, **medium** and **dark** shades as well as other characteristics outlined in the Classification, pages 12 and 13. These **must not be confused with named kinds** referred to elsewhere in this catalog, although they vie with them in general excellence and are sold at the lower price of

\$1.00 each, or full dozen **\$10.00**

(No named varieties can be selected under this head.)

Also Hoodacres Hybrids—Unselected

are sold from the general planting, after all doubtful ones have been eliminated when in bloom. These give remarkable satisfaction and frequently single specimens are found to be worth the cost of a dozen. The price is low enough to encourage liberal planting. Do you know the pleasure of a Delphinium patch from which to cut freely for indoor decoration?

\$3.50 per dozen; half dozen, **\$2.00**; 100, **\$25.00**

In ordering plants that are wanted by parcel post, rather than express, remittance should be sufficient to cover the charge and any overpayment will be returned after plants go forward.

SEEDS of Hoodacres Delphiniums

One of the most exacting operations of the Hoodacres plantings is the protection and collection of **SEEDS** from prepared specimen plants. Only such are used, for many plants that make beautiful flower spikes are not desirable as seed parents.

As all our advancement over existing kinds comes by cross pollenization through seeds, the skillful preparation of these tiny germs holds a great prophesy for next year's revelations. From many reports the quality of Hoodacres seedlings is unrivaled, particularly in the number of exceptional specimens produced.

HOODACRES, complete range of shades and forms, liberal packets	\$1.00
CLASSIFIED, 12 types (see pages 10 and 11), in sep- arate packets only, packet, \$1.00; the 12 for.....	10.00
WREXHAM (Hollyhock) strain, alone, packet.....	1.00
HOODACRES WHITE, single varieties mixed, packets of 50 seeds	(White seed crop failed)
HOODACRES WHITE, semi-double varieties mixed, packets of 50 seeds.....	(White seed crop failed)

Growing Seedlings

The seed-bed, whether flats, cold-frame or open ground, should be composed of fine loamy soil, with sand added, if required, for perfect friability, and containing some leaf mold. Late summer sowing, preferably in cold-frames without glass, but shaded until germination takes place (where they may remain over winter), will bring flowering plants the following summer. Very early spring sowing in gentle heat will also produce some bloom the same season (greenhouse or hotbed). Later spring sowing will furnish plants for blooming the following June. A layer of sand on top of seed-bed will discourage slugs and prevent crust.

Once transplanting before going into permanent place induces a fuller root system. Never let the seed-bed dry out for even a moment.

(Delphinium seeds deteriorate and should be sown within the year after gathering. I never send out old seeds.)

The new HOODACRES WHITE seed crop appeared too light, as this catalog went to press, to safely offer them, but later ripenings gave better returns. Now orders will be accepted so long as they last.

Packets of 50 choicest seeds.....\$5.00
(Packets of 50, single varieties, \$1.00)

Significant Letters



HOME ACRES

Walter Adams Johnson, Publisher, Great Oak Lane,
Pleasantville, New York.

April 25, 1927

Dear Mr. Barber:

When the garden public at large realizes what a real joy it is to unpack such large, lovely plants as you send so beautifully ready for handling, there ought to be a great boom in Hoodacres' products. You must have a wonderful list of satisfied customers.

WILLIAM ADAMS JOHNSON.

FROM EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY

I received my plants and delighted with them. I want to congratulate you on your method of packing for shipment. The plants were as fresh looking as any I have had from Philadelphia, which is only ninety miles from us.

Very truly,

MRS. J. T. WALSH.

MRS. J. C. VAN ARSDELL

Grower of Fine Gladioli

Sharpsburg, Ky., August 10, 1926.

Dear Sir: Last week I held my annual Gladioli Show and had visitors from all parts of the state. But nothing I had in the Gladioli created such a sensation as a bed of 100 of your seedlings. They are wonderful.

MRS. J. C. VAN ARSDELL.

FROM CENTRAL POINT, OREGON

Your Delphiniums, both from plants and seeds sent us, have been the glory and pride of our garden and we appreciate the loving care and marvelous skill you put into growing them. They are hardy, healthy and vigorous.

Cordially yours,

H. D. McCASKEY.

Named Varieties

Some of the named varieties grown at Hoodacres:

(Kinds in heavy faced letters are Hoodacres productions.)

BEATRICE. Light mauve and clear blue, large shapely flowers, remarkable for symmetry and vigor. Pawnee.

CELESTIAL VISITOR. Gentian blue. Cayuga.

COQUILLE. Azure blue tinged lilac, semi-double, medium growth, Navajo.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT. Marine blue. Eskimo.

E. AUGUSTUS BOWLES. Blue and purple with very large golden brown center. Shasta.

EDWIN MARKHAM. Strong spikes, mauve, backed blue, impressive. Shasta.

HAUTEUR. Tall purple and violet, large center. Rama.

LOUELLA AMES. Violet and blue, large center, late. Quapaw.

MAUVE MANTLE. Light mauve, almost a self. Pawnee.

MARY MALLORY ROBERTS. Soft lilac and delicate blue sepals, dark centers. Ottawa.

PERSIMMON. Bright light blue, bush-like plant. Apache.

QUEEN MARY. Light blue, touched pink. Apache.

REV. E. LASCELLES. Blue, large center. Rama.

REX WREXHAM. Pyramidal spikes, purple markings on blue and large brown center, giving a velvety effect. Shasta.

SACAJAWEA. Light mauve, edged wistaria blue; builds up rapidly, strong spikes, choice. Pawnee.

SIR GEORGE NEWNESS. Cobalt blue, plum inner petals, pale yellow center. Rama.

TALISMAN. Reddish purple over deep blue sepals, extra large white center. Rama.

THE ALAKE. Tall, long spikes, large blue purple. Rama.

TUSCARORA. Deep violet purple. Rama.

WAURENGA. Long showy spike of semi-double mauve flowers. Pawnee.

No plants of named varieties to offer this season.

White Varieties

Bridal Gown, large single flowers, white with creamy center, well built spikes and luxuriant foliage. The fore-runner of a new race. A few plants at \$5.00 each.

White Sister, a variety of good size florets on long spikes—the first strong break of pure white semi-double flowers, carried on plants with perfect foliage and vigorous constitution. It has been the parent of many of the Hoodacres white creations.

The Bride. A variation from other pure white varieties in the delicate blush that overspreads the blossom when first opened. Taken alone it appears white only but on close examination or comparison it is seen to resemble the lightest shadings found in the beautiful *Krameri Lily*. The florets are large and the plant typically robust.

Pearl Necklace arrived along with *The Bride*—probably from the same seed pod—and having the same general characteristics but is clear white and the sepals and petals are somewhat more pointed.

Bridesmaid bears 2½ inch flowers on a plant that is the picture of trim health (see front cover). It has the same charming flush upon opening as *The Bride* and captivates all who see its remarkable inflorescence.

Snow Bound is much like *White Sister* in all ways, except that absence of the usual petaloids at the center exposes the tiny black-tipped stamens and adds another attractive feature.

Angel's Breath, very large glistening white flowers neatly set off with a good sized center of delicate tan. One of the most attractive of the set.

No plants of above white varieties can be supplied this year, but a few seedlings that closely duplicate all but *Snow Bound* and *Bridesmaid*, are offered on page 10.

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS

DELPHINIUMS swaying in the dreamy breeze, suggest so much of youth in their summery dress of white and blue. One cannot see them in the garden without loving them and the youth they suggest. And I like their bedfellows, the *lilium candidum*, white and gorgeous in their plain afternoon frocks. I think the richest gardener I know is one who has, not a pile of money or a great house, *but two hundred delphiniums!* What a haven for the humming birds—and the nature-loving spirit!

CHESLA C. SHERLOCK,
Editor Better Homes and Gardens.

THE MEADOWS
Villa Nova, Penna.

November 18, 1926.

Mr. Chas. F. Barber,
Troutdale, Oregon.

Dear Sir: Please find enclosed cheque in payment of account for Delphiniums.

They arrived in fine condition—packed as they were, they would arrive in good condition in Australia.

As I should surely have “kicked” if disappointed, I feel it due to you to say this.

I have been in nursery and garden work for 45 years and have never seen better stock or plants more carefully shipped and packed.

ALFRED HARDING,
Superintendent for Mrs. Geo. R. Packard.

FROM WOODS HOLE, MASSACHUSETTS

We have had tremendous success this year with your Delphiniums, both with plants got from you last fall and with seeds of both your Hoodacres and Wrexham Delphiniums. They far surpassed any that we have ever had, or ever seen before, and we cannot speak too highly of them. I now wish to order more plants from you. * * *

The plants you sent last year arrived from their long journey across the continent in perfect condition and all thrive and flourished. The plants from your seeds, which our gardener here has raised, have put all the others away in the shade, as one might say.

HOODACRES DELPHINIUMS



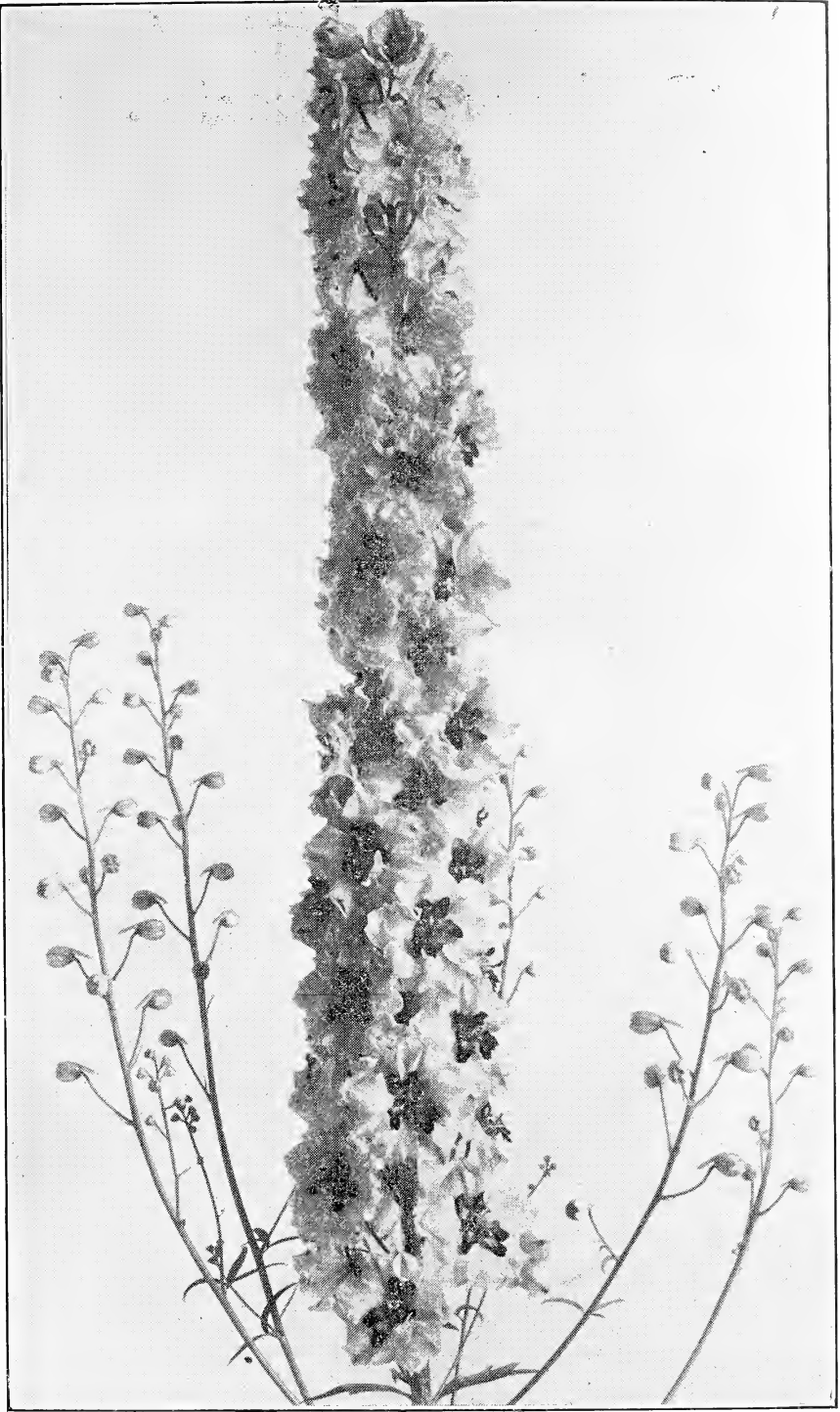
Effective single flowered spikes, BILOXI types.

When Delphiniums Bloom

It is not difficult to comprehend why gardeners grow Delphiniums, or perennial Larkspurs. They do not grow them for profit, although those who tend the flowers may be commercial gardeners. They do not grow them for gain solely. If you have seen a garden of Delphiniums in full flower, ranging from the hue of a starless twilight to that of of cloudless summer noon, you will know that gardeners could not think wholly of profit and grow Delphiniums. For if they were to begin thinking in this wise, there is so much money to be made of seedlings and seed, presently they must stand mused before the blossoms, giving thanks to creation. And they would be thinking, "Here is a sunset over the far sea"; and thinking, "Here is night as she comes to the valley"; and their thoughts would be far from dollars and dross.

It is simple enough to lose one's heart to any flower. The loveliness of it grows in the loam of one's heart and blooms there until the season of that flower is anticipated and a hunger comes for the witnessing of it. New leaves emerge from the soil, and bending over them, that delicate, fragile green, one considers that they must bloom some day. And the flower stalk rises from amid the foliage, and buds appear, and eagerness hovers the miracle. It will be soon, now. It is in this wise that gardeners watch the Delphinium, and more observantly than any other of the garden's guests.

Nor are they ever unrewarded. There is a morning when the spires unfold, and modestly, and day to day the Delphiniums increase in stately stature and quaint beauty until there is no dream of blue that does not find its counterpart in the garden. There are tints past dreaming, as must ever be the case when the creative artistry vies with the fancy of mortals. Delphiniums are very satisfactory. To walk among them is to feel that providence is not unmindful of beauty, that it takes thought of the nurture of the spirit, and that the Delphiniums hold speech with you. There is a white-crowned sparrow singing in the rose.—Ben Hur Lampman in *The Oregonian*.



LINE OF MARCH (New)

Delphinium Companions

Among the numerous fine things that win applause when they appear upon the garden stage are the hybrid Lupins and hybrid Heucheras. Lupin time is just before the reign of Delphiniums and for a month they are both glorious in color and appealing with fragrance.

Its native habitat is the Pacific Coast, and Oregon is credited with 71 species and varieties. Dull blue is the predominating tone, with occasionally a white and more rarely a pink specimen, while the shrubby form of California runs strongly to yellow. But the English hybridists have dressed this plant in so many new hues that Oregonians are inclined to think their eyes are playing them tricks. These new colors run from modified whites through porcelains, blues and purples to almost black; flesh, salmons, apricots, yellows; pinks, rose-pinks and shades of mulberry—many with contrasting upper lobes.

Lupins are strong feeders but being legumes draw much of their sustenance from the air. Yet contrary to the rule for legumes they cannot do their best in very limy soil and lime should never be applied.

Large plantings of the choicest stock to be found in England brought so many visitors to the 1927 blooming that the current stock was sold out, but seeds from the cream of the plantings is harvested and will be put up in packets at \$1.00 each and a more general mixture at 50c per packet.

Regale Lilies

Bulbs of this beautiful and easily grown Lily ready in October. Fine stock for next season's blooming. 50c, 75c and \$1.00 each, according to size.



LUPIN-ROSAMAY

The characteristic luxuriance of Hoodacres Lupins.

A two year old plant.

The Garden Trim

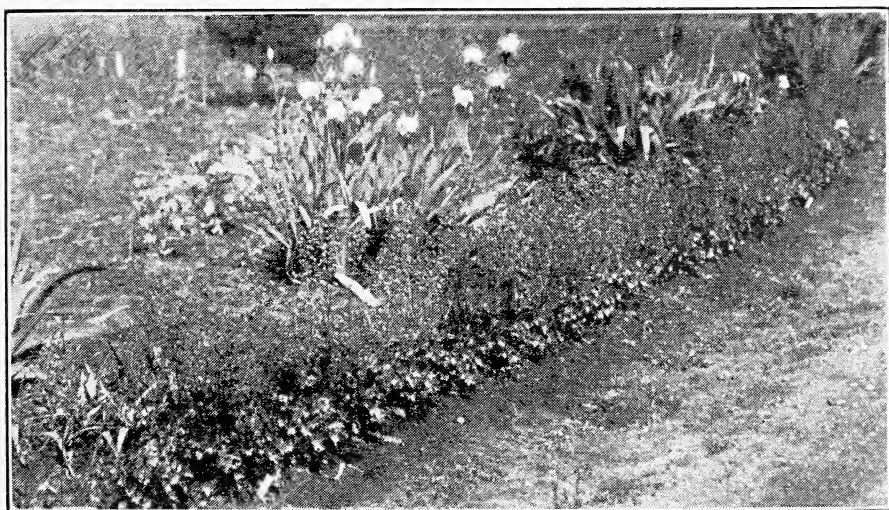
“Why is it that my garden seems incomplete?” is a question that comes to every real gardener. The answer is often “Edgings.” You may have tried some of the so-called edging plants and found them obstreperous nuisances. Others are ephemeral in habit and many are spotty in growth. But there is one beautiful plant that is ideal for such situations—the hybrid *Heuchera*. *Sanguinea*, the old-time form, commonly called “Coral Bells,” was not so vigorous and satisfactory as are the *brizoides* hybrids. Now the colors run from fiery reds to coral tones and pink down into cream and pure white. The variety *Rain of Fire* is typical of the brilliant kinds.

For its particular use the *Heuchera* is as near perfection as any plant that is grown. For twelve months in the year the edging is an unbroken fringe—rosettes of beautiful leaves that darken with age and disappear only when the new set takes their place in spring. The flower stems are like wires a foot to eighteen inches in height, carrying masses of little bells that form a flowing stream of brilliant color for two months in springtime and more sparingly throughout the summer.

Not only as an edging plant does the *Heuchera* shine, but it claims a welcome place in the rockery and is an elegant and lasting cut flower. It is easy to manage and never requires punishment or correction to keep it in behavior.

Rain of Fire, 40c each; \$4.00 per dozen.

Edge Hall, pink, 40c each; \$4.00 per dozen.



HYBRID HEUCHERAS, as edging plants and cut flowers



June and Delphiniums



The robin watching o'er his nest
Chants a melodious, joyful tune;
The wood thrush flutes his very best
To tell us all that this is June.

The honeysuckle scents the air,
The treetops murmur to the moon;
Delphiniums bloom in colors rare—
'Tis nearest heaven, the month of June.

Paraphrasing Archibald Hopkins